

Message Text

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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OCON, OAS, CI, IAHC

SUBJECT: MEETING OF OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL - IAHC'S REPORT
ON CHILE

BOGOTA FOR AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD

1. THE FOLLOWING IS FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION.
2. A LETTER OF DECEMBER 18, 1974 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHC) WAS ON THE AGENDA OF THE JANUARY 22 OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL MEETING. THE LETTER INDICATED THAT THE COMMISSION DOES NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING, AS HAS BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL, ON THE CHILEAN OBSERVATIONS ON THE COMMISSION'S REPORT CONCERNING ITS TRIP TO CHILE JULY 22 TO AUGUST 2, 1974.
3. IN THE JANUARY 22 MEETING THE CHILEAN REPRESENTATIVE REFERRED TO A LETTER OF JANUARY 20 HE HAD SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL STATING THAT THE COMMISSION HAD NOT HEEDED THE CALL MADE UPON IT BY THE PERMANENT COUNCIL, THAT IT WAS FORTUNATE THE PERMANENT

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COUNCIL HAD DECIDED AT ITS MEETING OF DECEMBER 4 TO REFER

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION AND
THE CHILEAN OBSERVATIONS ON THE REPORT, AND THAT THE
CHILEAN GOVERNMENT WOULD PRESENT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NOT ONLY ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS BUT ALSO CONSIDERATION
OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THE COMMISSION BELIEVES IT HAS
ADHERED TO THE FULFILLMENT OF ITS OBLIGATIONS AND
RESPONSIBILITIES AS PROVIDED IN ITS STATUTES AND
REGULATIONS. THE CHILEAN REPRESENTATIVE ENLARGED UPON
THESE POINTS, PROTESTED THE WAY IN WHICH THE COMMISSION
HAD HANDLED THE CASE, AND ASSERTED THAT CHILE AND
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WERE THE ONLY COUNTRIES WHICH HAD
RECEIVED THE COMMISSION, THAT THERE WAS AN INTERNATIONAL
CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT CHILE, AND THAT CHILE HAS RESOLVED
NOT TO AUTHORIZE ANY GROUP TO COME INTO CHILE UNLESS
THEY COULD VERIFY OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATED.
HE REJECTED THE REPORT AND WILL SPEAK AT THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY ANSWERING ALL ACCUSATIONS.

4. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF PANAMA INDICATED THAT THE
COMMISSION HAD GONE TO ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES, AND
INDICATED THAT THE PERMANENT COUNCIL AT THE DECEMBER 4
MEETING IN SENDING THE DOCUMENTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
WAS NOT EXPRESSING A JUDGMENT ON THEM. HE INDICATED THE
DOCUMENTS SHOULD GO THROUGH THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THAT THE PERMANENT
COUNCIL HAS THE AUTHORITY TO COMMENT ON THE REPORT.

5. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF PARAGUAY WHO WAS PRESIDENT OF
THE PERMANENT COUNCIL AT THE DECEMBER 4 MEETING REVIEWED
THE DECISIONS AT THE DECEMBER 4 MEETING.

6. THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, JOHN W. FORD, HAVING
EARLIER IN THE MEETING ASKED FOR CONFIRMATION THAT THIS
MATTER WOULD BE ON THE AGENDA OF THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL
ASSEMBLY IN APRIL STATED:

QUOTE. THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN. THERE ARE TWO MORE
OBSERVATIONS I WANT TO MAKE. I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS
MY GRATITUDE TO THE DISTINGUISHED AMBASSADOR OF PANAMA,
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WHO ALWAYS CLARIFY MY TENDENCY TO FORGET ABOUT THE MORE
PRECISE MEANING IN TERMS OF THE TERMINOLOGY THAT IS USED
REGARDING OUR VARIOUS FORUMS AND LEVELS AND THE
PARTICIPANTS IN THEM.

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PREVIOUSLY, I ESTABLISHED AS A RESULT OF THE CHAIR'S
RESPONSE, THE FACT THAT THIS IMPORTANT MATTER WILL WITH
NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER, BE ON THE AGENDA OF THE OAS GENERAL

ASSEMBLY, AND I REPEAT THAT IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT THIS IS THE HIGHEST ORGAN OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM.

SECONDLY, I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN OBSERVATION AND THAT IS THAT IT WOULD SEEM TO THIS DELEGATION THAT IT WOULD BE OBVIOUSLY TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL CONCERNED IF THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WOULD, BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAKE SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON THE OBSERVATIONS OF THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT ON THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION REPORT ON CHILE. FURTHER, AND THIS HAS REFERENCE TO WHAT AMBASSADOR PITY HAS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED, CONCERNING PREVIOUS WORK IN THE FIELD OF THIS COMMISSION, I CAN SEE A NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES AROUND THIS TABLE, WHO HAVE WORKED WITH THE COMMISSION IN THE FIELD AS HAVE I. BASED ON PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE COMMISSION, I HAVE SEEN IT PRODUCE IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND AT THE SAME TIME I HAVE SEEN IT PRODUCE IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY. THERE IS ONE CELEBRATED CASE, THAT IS WITHIN THE MEMORY OF A NUMBER OF PEOPLE AROUND THIS ROOM, PARTICULARLY AMBASSADOR SEVILLA SACASA, WHERE THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN A CASE OF ALLEGED RAPE AND MURDER WAS THROUGH ITS INVESTIGATION ABLE TO PRODUCE ALIVE THE VICTIM OF THIS ALLEGED VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THAT IS ALL I WISHED TO SAY, THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. END QUOTE.

7. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF BRAZIL PUT ON RECORD THAT HE WAS SURPRISED AT THE RESPONSE OF THE IAHR TO THE SUGGESTION OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR THE COMMISSION TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING.

8. THE CHAIRMAN, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF PERU, STATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EARLIER IN THE MEETING THAT THE PERMANENT COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 4 HAD AGREED TO SEND THE DOCUMENTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE CONCLUDED THE DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM BY REITERATING THAT THE DOCUMENTS WOULD GO TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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